

Edgefield Advertiser.

Oldest Newspaper In South Carolina

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EDGEFIELD, S. C., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1915

NO. 32

DOWN IN TEXAS.

Correspondent Gives Crop Conditions in Texas. Writes of Trouble Along Mexican Border.

Editor The Advertiser:— I am still down in south Texas and dry and hot. Water is scarce and hard to get no rain since the 28th of May. The crops are better than was expected. It has been so dry that the weevil left the cotton and it is fine. The farmers say it will make about two-thirds to a bale per acre. Up to last Saturday there has been 12,800 bales put on this depot and yard for shipment. They think they will put 8,000 more. It is selling from 9¢ to 10¢. Corn is short and sorry but don't need it. As they have plenty of Kaffir corn they are selling their corn at 50 cents per bushel.

Two weeks ago I went from here to Portland about 85 miles down on the bay. I went through the town of Taft then through Grýre and of all the sights of cotton I saw it on the road. I was in an automobile and we went by a great gas well that blew out and caught fire and is still burning. It is a sight to see. The fire boils and spurts up and they can't control it or put it out. It is about 100 yards to the edge of the bay where the gas runs in the bay. It has caught fire and is burning around for 20 feet. Then I went to another one that they had under control. There was so much noise and roaring you had to holler in talking. At this well they had killed a rattlesnake as large as my arm with 12 rattles, the first I had ever seen. Last week I went down to Corpus Christie, about 50 miles from here. I crossed the bay on a bridge said to be five or six miles long. Corpus is a beautiful town of about 12 or 15 thousand. They are building a street car bridge across this bay from Corpus to Portland. I saw one cotton field on my way that had 100 Mexicans in it picking cotton. There were tents all over the field. On Saturday afternoon you can hardly walk the streets here for Mexicans. Our soldiers and the Texas Rangers are fighting them every day or two down near Brownville. They come over in bands of 75 or 80 and rob, kill and tear up railroad bridges as they go. About two weeks ago I saw three trains loaded with nothing but soldiers and horses going to Brownville. The white people are leaving their country houses and going to the towns for protection, being afraid to stay in their houses at night. I am looking for it to start here as the sheriff arrested two of the Mexicans for house stealing and put them in jail. He got two letters the next day stating that he had better turn them out or he would suffer for it. No name was signed to the letters. He expects to be killed any time. I don't hardly think he is in any danger unless he is caught out of town. Don't know, though? there are so many of them here and they love whiskey and you know that whiskey will make a man do lots of things that he would not do when sober.

I am so glad that old South Carolina has gone dry. You know it makes me feel good to meet my friends here on the streets and they all compliment me about my old state going dry. They say they are going to try and work for Texas to get dry and I tell them I hope they will not give all of the credit of South Carolina going dry to the men for I believe that the most of it came by the prayers and hard work of the good women of South Carolina and especially the good ladies around Edgefield court house and there are some good men in and around Edgefield like R. L. Danovant. Thank you ever so much old friend for that nice box of cigars. I did enjoy them so much. The people are nice and kind to me but I love old South Carolina and her people and will forever, above all others. I am old and have always lived in it. It is said that you can't teach an old dog new tricks and I believe it. You can tell Iv Morgan that he need not fear about a Mexican widow lassoing me for I don't like them and can't understand anything they say.

Mr. Editor there is in sight of us an oil well that is being bored. They have got it 4,000 feet deep and struck oil and the companies are offering \$7.50 per acre on all the

Edgefield Teachers, Greeting.

The time for opening our rural schools is now at hand, and, as a great deal depends on the way our work is begun, I send this message, hoping that you will find something suggestive. The progress being made along educational lines should urge every one connected with the work to do his or her best to bring Edgefield to the front among the counties of the state. Our last year was a good one, but we should not be satisfied. We can do better.

On the first day of school, the teacher should be on the ground early, meeting the children as they come in, learning their names, and engaging each one in a short conversation on any subject that might interest a child and put him at his ease. This first morning is a strenuous time with most children. It is not necessary to hurry about calling them to order on this first morning, but give all your time to be present at the opening exercises. The exercise may consist of a selection from the scripture and the Lord's prayer in concert, or the teacher may be judge of this exercise.

If the teacher so desires, a short talk appropriate to the occasion may be made, and then proceed with the enrollment and examination of books. This will take some time and those not actually engaged by the teacher may be kept busy writing name, postoffice, county and state, with perhaps a list of books studied the previous year. The idea is merely to keep them doing some thing, because on this first morning with a stranger especially, each child will be studying the teacher to find any weak points that may be and the teacher needs that opportunity with the pupil first.

After examining the books of each one, it is well to assign a simple lesson in reading, writing or spelling to keep him or her busy after going to another. A boy or girl left with nothing to do will be more than apt to find something. Do not be hasty in ordering new books for pupils, nor take their word for what they may think they know. It is wise to spend the first few days with the old books, that an intelligent idea may be formed as to what books are needed.

The control of a rural school is generally decided within the first few days of the session. A set of written rules is not practical. Give the children to understand that the rule of right is to govern, and make that the standard. Be positive without being partial, make yourself a friend of your pupils without sacrificing your dignity as a teacher. Give them to understand that you are with them to help them. When a child needs correction, be careful to say what you mean, and mean what you say.

The respect of your pupils is very important, but more important is the winning of their confidence. Get both, and the question is solved. I wish for each one of you a pleasant year, and one that will be a benefit to the children, and to the community. You have taken up your duty and will be of service to you and the time, call on me.

Respectfully,
W. W. Fuller,
Co. Supt. Education.

Mrs. Rena Reardon.

Augusta, Ga., Oct. 4.—Mrs. Rena Reardon, aged 40 years, died at a hospital here yesterday and was buried this afternoon from the Woodlawn Baptist church, the Rev. C. R. Hutchings officiating. She is survived by her husband, John R. Reardon; her mother, Mrs. Annie Harris; two brothers, Simeon Harris of Johnston and Joe Harris of Edgefield, and one sister, Mrs. J. W. Reese of Edgefield.

land they can get as a lease to sink oil wells. This is not buying the land but just the right to sink a well. When they want one on a hundred acres of land they pay \$750 and the one can go ahead and farm and if they sink a well on your farm the company pays you all the damage they do your farm. This is helping the farmer that owns a little place out and helping some to pay for their land that could not have been paid for otherwise.

Well, Mr. Editor I hope to be with you all next August or before then if I can.

J. J. Garnett.

Sinton, Texas.

PEAK-BUSSEY.

Very Beautiful Home Wedding Numerous Handsome Tokens. Elaborate Supper Served.

One of the prettiest home weddings ever witnessed in Edgefield was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Peak Thursday afternoon at 6 o'clock when their eldest daughter, Miss Hortense Peak, became the bride of the Rev. Patrick Henry Bussey. The ceremony was performed by Dr. E. Pendleton Jones, assisted by the Rev. George W. Bussey of Greenwood, an uncle of the groom.

As the guests arrived they were received by Mr. and Mrs. Peak and Miss Florence Peak. The spacious hall, front parlors and dining room were decorated with smilax and cut flowers. Pink carnations and smilax were used in great profusion in the hall, dining room and west parlor and in the east parlor, where the ceremony was performed, white carnations and evergreens were used. The pre-nuptial musical numbers were a pleasing feature, filling the interim between the arrival of the guests and the appointed time for the ceremony. Mrs. Mamie N. Tillman presided at the piano playing the accompaniments. Miss Miriam Norris sang "Because," which was followed by a violin solo by Miss Rosella Parker entitled "Love's Melody." Miss May Hughes of Mobile, Ala., a school friend of the bride, sang "A Perfect Day." The strains of the Mendelssohn wedding march upon the piano by Mrs. Tillman announced the readiness of the bridal party, the following order being observed on entering the parlor: Dr. E. Pendleton Jones and the Rev. G. W. Bussey, Miss Lallie Peak and Miss Mamie Bussey, sisters of the bride and groom, respectively.

Miss Marion Blacklock, Miss Rose Peak, the maid of honor; little Effie Allen Lott and Hansford Mims, bearing flowers and the ring; the groom accompanied by his best man, the Rev. L. H. Gardner of Hartsville, and last the bride, attired in a rich gown, with the conventional veil hanging gracefully about her slender form, on the arm of her father. The bride and groom took their position before the improvised altar of flowers, whose loveliness was heightened by the soft light from numerous tapers. The ring ceremony was used and at the close of the brief but impressive ceremony, the Rev. G. W. Bussey invoked heaven's blessings upon the newly formed union.

In reverse order the bridal party left the parlor and entered the dining room, where they were seated about a long table, partaking of the elaborate wedding supper. As the last course was completed, Mrs. Mamie Tillman who served as toast-mistress, after giving utterance to befitting words called upon Dr. E. Pendleton Jones to respond to the toast, "The Bride," which he did in a most happy vein. While the bridal party was feasting in the dining room, the guests were served with an elaborate wedding supper buffet style. A private reception of the occasion for the bride was the book in which all of the guests recorded their names, under the supervision of Miss Jennie Pattison as they entered the west parlor to view the numerous tokens from friends in Edgefield and other parts of the state. Miss Sadie Mims and Mrs. W. L. Danovant, Jr., refreshed the guests with fruit punch.

The bride quietly withdrew and changed her gown for a handsome traveling suit, and amid a shower of rice they hastened through the hall and down the walk to the gate, where an automobile was waiting to take them to Augusta, whence they departed upon their wedding journey of two weeks. After their return they will make their home in Darlington county, near Hartsville, where Mr. Bussey is pastor of two large Baptist churches and principal of the school.

Our popular price patterns and weaves in wool and wash fabrics are the most attractive in style and beauty, and more tempting in their money-saving possibilities than you could expect. We have here the kind you will be glad to choose from, and at prices you can easily afford and would be glad to pay.

Rabenstein.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

Mr. and Mrs. Claxton Celebrated Fiftieth Anniversary of Their Marriage. Sumptuous Feast.

Editor Advertiser:— In the eastern section of Edgefield county, on the crest of a sloping hill overlooking Beech creek stands a beautiful country home. Around this home cluster evidences of enterprise, peace, and plenty, and this home is that of our beloved friends, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis V. Claxton. In 1861 Lewis V. Claxton entered the Confederate army as a member of Company A, 19th S. C. regiment, and served throughout the war between the states, and a truer, braver soldier never shouldered a musket.

After the smoke of battle had passed away Lewis Claxton came to his home and began life penniless. He soon found a helpmate who was willing to help him and to share with him in meeting the problems of life which come to us all. On the 1st day of October, 1865, Miss Margaret Aughtry became his wife, and for fifty years they have walked in life together, sharing the duties and responsibilities, the joys and sorrows, one with the other.

To them have been born eight children, seven of whom are now living—two sons and five daughters—to each of them he has given a nice farm. And these splendid sons and daughters are living examples of the home training that has been theirs.

I had the honor of attending the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Claxton on October 1 and I am sure that I have not spent a day longer to be remembered to me. All of his children and their families were there, numbering thirty-four, and two great-grand children and two great-grand children. Other relatives and friends swelled the number present to something like two hundred, twenty-four of whom were Claxtons of Georgia. It was a joyous occasion. Everybody breathed happiness and pleasure. The many golden presents that this good man and wife were the recipients of spoke in silence of the love and esteem in which they were held by friends and loved ones.

At 1:30 dinner was announced and the crowd gathered around the table in the cool shade of stately oaks. A more sumptuous dinner I have never seen. Barbecued meats, and all kinds of meat that you can find on an Edgefield farm and every conceivable kind of cakes and pies. The beauty of it all was that this dinner, except tea, sugar and coffee, was of home production.

At about 4 o'clock with many good wishes for Mr. and Mrs. Claxton and their splendid daughters, sons and sons-in-law, we left for our home in Edgefield with thankful hearts because it had been our pleasure to mingle with friends in this home.

Edgefield, S. C.

Guest.

Mrs. Elizabeth Smyly.

The death of Mrs. Elizabeth Tompkins Smyly at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Albert Dozier, at Johnston, marks the passing of the last of her generation. This connecting link between the remote past and the living present has been severed. She was the eldest representative of an old and honored Edgefield family, and in the active years of her life Mrs. Smyly was the leading factor in the community life. This consecrated woman has joined loved ones who preceded her to the home beyond the skies. A beautiful tribute is paid her by our Johnston correspondent.

Miss Lizzie Harris.

A useful life extending over a period of more than four score years was brought to a close when Miss Lizzie Harris died at the home of Mrs. F. M. Warren Saturday. To Mrs. Warren and her sisters and brothers, this good woman had always been as a mother and all of them were as devoted and as attentive to her as if she were a member of the family circle. She was a noble Christian woman, being valued and appreciated most by those who knew her best.

News From Plum Branch.

On last Sunday morning at 11 o'clock was regular preaching hour at the Methodist church. Rev. B. H. Covington pastor, had succeeded in getting Rev. Robert Rountree to fill the pulpit. Brother Rountree preached an excellent sermon which was greatly enjoyed by the entire audience. In the afternoon Mr. Rountree went to White Town, followed by several friends from Plum Branch who were anxious to hear him preach again, which he did in a very forcible way, urging people to see their error and turn from their sins before it was too late.

On last Sunday night at the Baptist church, was carried out a program on state mission work, which was under the management of the W. M. U. of that church. The program was as follows:

Song, "From Greenland's icy mountains."

Prayer for state mission work by Rev. B. H. Covington.

Solo by little Elsie May Sanders, which was sung so beautifully that it stirred the entire audience. This child is only about six years old and is a perfect jewel.

Sunbeam dialogue by a large number of sunbeams and their faithful leader, Mrs. W. C. Blackwell. Recitation by little Mattie Lou Riddlehoover.

Reading by Miss Lillian Sanders on some of the needs of state mission work and the condition of our state.

A missionary song by the congregation.

Y. W. A. dialogue by six girls, each of them representing different missionary causes of our state.

Special music which was beautifully rendered by Mrs. J. L. Bracknell.

Ladies missionary meeting by the W. M. U. ladies seated on the platform. The meeting was opened with scripture reading by Mrs. J. L. Bracknell.

Prayer which was reading by Mrs. C. T. Harper from Miss Ruth Pinson of the training school. Then came the exercise of outstretched hands. Those that took part were Mrs. R. E. Coleman, Mrs. J. W. Bracknell, Misses Ida Sanders and Pearl Collier, Mesdames W. C. Blackwell, J. L. Bracknell, Pierce White, Evan Cochran, Johnnie Banister, Johnnie Sanders. At the close was the state song by the society after which the society was dismissed with prayer by the president. Remarks by Mr. McAllister were very helpful and encouraging.

A collection was taken which amounted to \$12.75, and will be sent at once to the state board by the W. M. U. as a special offering.

Song, "Nobody ever told me of Jesus," by Mesdames Harper and Blackwell.

Dismissal with prayer by the pastor, Rev. G. M. Sexton.

Although just one week was spent in arranging this program, it was all that we could expect. We feel that these ladies have helped the church and community to realize more fully the great need of state missions.

Plum Branch, S. C.

Daffodil.

Mrs. Corrie Ryan.

Trenton has sustained an irreparable loss. Such a devout Christian woman as Mrs. Corrie Ryan, the widow of the lamented E. L. Ryan, was an asset that can not be valued too highly. Before succumbing to the long illness, which she bore so patiently and during which her devoted children ministered to her so lovingly, she was foremost in every good work bearing upon the welfare of the community life. She has now entered upon her eternal rest, deserving the commendation "Well done." A beautiful tribute is paid Mrs. Ryan by our Trenton correspondent.

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JOHNSTON LETTER.

Death of Mrs. Smyly. Mr. and Mrs. Claxton Celebrated Their Golden Wedding, D. A. R. Meeting.

Mrs. Elizabeth Tompkins Smyly, the widow of the late Mr. J. Smyly died Friday October 1, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Albert Dozier. On October 11, she would have been eighty years old, and the last year of her life she had grown very feeble, several weeks previous to her death, being confined to her bed. There was done for her comfort all that loving hands could do, but she gradually grew weaker, "the silver cord was loosed," and she went to be with God. With just a sigh of rest she fell asleep. Mrs. Smyly was a noble woman of the old type and of great strength of character, being a true christian. She was a member of the Baptist church and of the missionary society. As a mother she knew her work. With affection and care she reared a family of ten sons and daughters who honored and loved her. Of this large family only four are left. Mesdames P. N. Lott of this place and Mrs. Pickens Kinard of Greenwood, and Mr. St. Clair Smyly of Eastman, Ga. She was kind and neighborly and during her young and active days there were many deeds of kindness done. She meant much in the home where she passed her last years and the little grandchildren were her loving care. The funeral services were conducted on Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock at Mt. of Olives cemetery, where six of her children are buried, Dr. A. T. King her pastor, being assisted by Rev. J. H. Thacker. There were many floral designs sent by sympathizing friends, among them being ones from the missionary society, the D. of G., the New Century Club, and the Y. W. A. Mrs. Earl Crouch was hostess for the Friday afternoon sewing club and those present thoroughly enjoyed the time spent with this cordial young hostess. After an hour or so of chatting, sewing and listening to sweet music, a delightful salad course with iced tea was served. Hon. A. S. Tompkins, Mrs. Ella Tompkins and Miss Ina Hill of Edgefield spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Black.

Misses Grace and Ruth Tompkins of Edgefield were guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Turner Saturday.

Mrs. Sallie Smyly of Charlotte spent the week-end here with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Duncan and Mrs. J. W. DeVore of Edgefield were here Saturday, being among others to attend the funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Tompkins Smyly.

Mrs. W. J. Dozier spent the last week and part of the week in the dedication of the new chapel which has been built in the memory of Miss Elizabeth Hyde.

Mrs. Hatcher's talk was a most interesting one. In the corner stone of this chapel are the names of all the Sunbeams in the state, there being twenty-six from the Johnston Sunbeams. A young Dane was the first one to be baptized in the chapel. In a coming issue of the Courier will be found a short message to the sunbeams he told to Mrs. Hatcher.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Claxton of the Philippi section, celebrated their golden wedding Friday, October 1, the day also being the seventy-fifth birthday of the former. There was a general re-union of the family. This happy couple has been blessed with seven children and there are thirty-two grand children and two great grand children and all these were present, besides twenty-four relatives from Georgia and nearby relatives and friends. The day was a joyous occasion and every one present had good wishes for these two dear ones. There were also given gifts in gold among them being a beautiful gold brooch for Mrs. Claxton and gold links for Mrs. Claxton. Mrs. M. W. Clark who was a guest and knowing that the day was Mr. Claxton's birthday carried him a large bouquet of gold.

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